



# NORTH-CENTRAL INDIANA CENTERS\*

October 16, 2000

Honorable Donna Shalala  
Secretary of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Room 615 F  
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Shalala:

As a small business manager and hearing health care provider, I write with respect to hearing aids. As the AARP has confirmed, hearing aids are highly effective but dramatically underutilized medical devices.

I am very concerned with reports that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has reportedly sent to you a proposal for revising the current regulations governing the dispensing of hearing aids in this country that would dramatically increase the cost of hearing health care services and restrict access to hearing health care providers. Please stop and carefully consider the impact that this proposed rule will have on the nation's hearing impaired and on the nation's small business hearing aid specialists. In particular, please ensure that any proposed rule meets the obligations of the Small business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act.

Hearing impairment is a major health care concern. Please don't let the FDA put forth their proposed rule that would impede access to needed hearing health care services for millions of Americans.

Very truly yours,

*Phyllis Reeves, BC-HIS*

Phyllis Reeves

93N 0372

Miracle-Ear Center  
2130 South Bend Avenue  
South Bend, IN 46637  
219-272-2245

Wards - Scottsdale Mall  
1390 East Ireland Road  
South Bend, IN 46614  
219-291-2253

Sears - Pierre Moran Mall  
154 West Hively Avenue  
Elkhart, IN 46517  
219-296-7666

Sears - Marquette Mall  
3901 Franklin Street  
Michigan City, IN 46360  
219-874-1112

Service Center - 304 North Walnut Street  
Plymouth, IN 46363 - 219-935-0909  
Thursdays only - 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Service Center - Caregiver Plus, Inc. - 245 West Johnson Road  
La Porte, IN 46360 - 219-874-1112  
Tuesdays only - 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM

\*Independently owned and operated Franchise

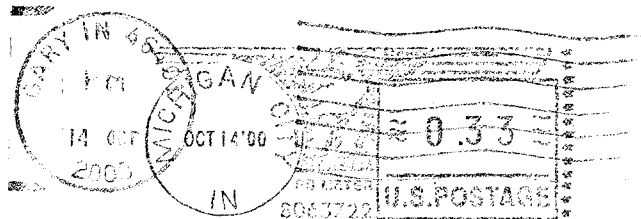
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**MIRACLE EAR CENTER**

2130 South Bend Ave.

South Bend, IN 46637



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